

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are now pending in the application. The amendments to the claims contained herein are of equivalent scope as originally filed and, thus, are not narrowing amendments. Further, the amendments to the claims as proposed do not present new issues requiring further consideration or searching. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 8 and 9 are objected to because of lack of antecedent basis. This typographical error has been corrected by changing any reference to "aircraft" in claim 8 to "mobile platform" thus consistently referring to "mobile platform," a broader term, over "aircraft." This removes any lack of antecedent basis in claims 8 and 9. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the objection to claims 8 and 9 in view of the correcting amendment to claim 8.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 and 4-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey (U.S. Pat. No. 5,590,022) in view of an article by Marsha Walton dated January 23, 2001. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Initially, it will be noted that claim 1 has been amended to more positively reflect that the connector module comprises a "housing forming an integral portion of a seat of the mobile platform and is therefore nonremovable from the seat, wherein the seat comprises a seat cushion, a seat frame and a seat armrest." These limitations are not shown or suggested by the Harvey or Walton references. Harvey is directed to a

"compact modular portable workstation including a computer, a printer and/or other peripherals efficiently interconnected with one another : . . all operational from and efficiently packaged within an impact resistant carrying case." (see Harvey Abstract). There is absolutely no discussion or suggestion in Harvey or Walton of "a housing forming an integral portion of a seat of the mobile platform and therefore nonremovable from the seat." For this reason, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 4-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Walton is respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey (U.S. Pat. No. 5,590,022) in view of an article by Marsha Walton dated January 23, 2001 and further in view of Francis (U.S. Pat. No. 6,315,618). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The above remarks regarding claim 1 apply here too. Neither Harvey nor Walton nor Francis teach or suggest a connector module on a mobile platform comprising "a housing forming an integral portion of a seat of the mobile platform and therefore nonremovable from the seat" (claim 1) where the connector module further comprises a networking port and a power port. For this reason, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Walton and in further view of Francis is respectfully requested.

Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey (U.S. Pat. No. 5,590,022) in view of an article by Marsha Walton dated January 23, 2001, in view of Francis (U.S. Pat. No. 6,315,618) and further in view of Thompson (U.S. Pat. No. 6,206,480). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 8 has been amended to more positively reflect a connector module on a mobile platform comprising "a housing forming an integral portion of a seat within the mobile platform . . ." (claim 8). Neither Harvey, nor Walton, nor Francis, nor Thompson teach or suggest a connector module on a mobile platform comprising "a housing forming an integral portion of a seat within the mobile platform," a networking port, a second networking port, and a power port (claim 8). For this reason, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Harvey in view of Walton, in view of Francis, and further in view of Thompson, is respectfully requested.

In reference to claim 10, Harvey (U.S. Patent No. 5,590,022) in view of an article by Marsha Walton dated January 23, 2001, in view of Francis (U.S. Patent No. 6,315,618) and further in view of Thompson (U.S. Pat. No. 6,206,480) shows substantially the invention as claimed.

Initially It will be noted that claim 10 has been amended to more positively reflect that the connector module comprises "a housing connected to a seat of the aircraft . . .," a first networking port, a second networking port, and a power port (claim 10). Neither Harvey, nor Walton, nor Francis, nor Thompson disclose these limitations. For this reason, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

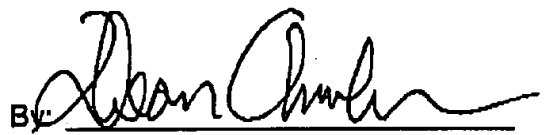
It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is

believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5/5/03

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

By: 

Mark D. Elchuk Reg. No. 33686
Dean W. Amburn, Reg. No. 46517

FAX RECEIVED

MAY 06 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800